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EVALUATION OF SOURCE Documentary

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SUMMARY

The "Voice of the Slovak Republic" transmitter, which made its first appearance on April 16, after the trial of Dr. Tiso, and which speaks on behalf of the "Slovak Action Committee" in favor of a Slovak State independent of the "Czechos-Communists" in power in Prague, has succeeded in partially evading the intensive jamming by other transmitters and is again monitorable.

The station now openly announces itself as the "Voice of the Slovak Republic of the Spanish Radio Nacional" and the transmissions of Monday, May 19 stressed the anti-Communist role of Spain and that country's support of the Slovak Independence movement.

On May 18 a broadcast asked "all correspondents of the Slovak Information Service" to send in reports to the station on how it is being received, and on May 19 the station reported that the Czechoslovaks are preparing to use 12 transmitters to jam it.

Calling all Slovaks to remain faithful to the ideals of national independence, the station declares that those who remain faithful to these ideals will reap the fruit of liberation; those that betray them must be punished. Asserting that the "promises of the Atlantic Charter have been suspended only temporarily" and the "conscience of the world is awakening," the station urges underground organization and resistance "to the transfer of Slovaks to the Czech lands," a reference to the program of settling Slovaks in the territory evacuated by the Sudeten Germans. Specific advice is offered on the writing of slogans in public places and the formation of underground cells consisting of no more than two to six persons. Activity of the "Youth Resistance" movement is encouraged. The station promises that in 1948 and 1949 "the Slaves in the world will be liberated from the Red pest and tyranny" and that the efforts to "destroy the western democracies with the help of the Communist Parties" will be opposed by the world public who will put an end to "Bolshevik infiltration."

CLASSIFICATION

Speaking of the ~~the~~ ⁷⁹⁶⁵⁶ ~~the~~ ^{the} Czechoslovakian declares that "the Czechoslovak Communist and Slovak traitorous clique... whose only support is the dictatorial power of the Soviet Union... has committed the most shameful and inhuman act." Castigating it as "a crime against the Catholic Church, humanity, and the Slovak Nation," the speaker says that "all persons participating or in any way implicated in this act are excommunicated from the Christian Catholic Church, expelled from the society of mankind, and from Slovak national life."

A special message of Dr. Tiso allegedly written "just two hours before his death" calls on Slovaks to pursue "the great principle for God and country." Asserting that "I consider myself a principal leader in the defense of Christianity against Bolshevism," Tiso's message calls for God's blessing on the Slovak Nation, and is dated "in Bratislava, 18 April, 1947, 3:00 a.m."

Other broadcasts emphasize the duty of every Slovak to help "in the destruction of the Czechoslovakian regime" whose "bloody, arbitrary rule will soon come to an end," and declare that the Slovak Action Committee is headed by Dr. Ferdinand Durcansky in Salzburg. (Durcansky was sentenced to death in absentia at the same time as Dr. Tiso.) Asserting that Slovakia's claim to independence is fully recognized "by leading personages" in the U.S., Canada, and Spain, one broadcast says that there is small wonder that there "is so much incitement against the Franco regime in Prague," and it predicts that the U.S. will give Spain such economic help "that the fury of the comrades will know no end."

The "Voice of the Slovak Republic" transmitter continues its daily broadcasts in favor of Slovak separatism. Broadcasts carry the slogan "this year over to the attack! every trace of the Second Czechoslovak Republic will be erased." Listeners are repeatedly reminded to write the letters "SAV" standing for the Slovak Action Committee in all public places in Slovakia and transmissions continue to defend Dr. Tiso as a martyr, depending in part on quotations from the foreign press.

On Wednesday (May 21) the Italian paper LA CIVILTA CATTOLICA and the Swiss BASLER NACHRICHTEN are cited.

Another broadcast implies that preparations for a revolt are already underway, with the assertion that "a rising is in preparation against the Communist Government... Insurgent troops are already being organized... even in Bohemia." A captain Svoboda is said to be in charge of partisans in the Zrdy forest and at Poliska a Colonel is alleged to have organized a whole division waiting for the signal "to sweep the traitors of the nation from the castle of Prague." (May 20, 1947)

That these broadcasts are having effect in Slovakia is indicated by the newspaper SVODODNE NOVINY which, while generally friendly to Dr. Benes, often criticizes the policy of the government. This paper declares that the "ostensible religious processions now taking place in Slovakia in reality have a political character, being "silent demonstrations for Tiso whose last will—real or apocryphal—is being circulated in Slovakia" and which "are broadcast from somewhere in the United States Zone of Germany." (Prague to Diplomatic Missions, May 20, 1947)

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CONFIDENTIAL

- 3 -

APPENDIX

79656

CPYRIGHT Prague, Czechoslovak Home Service, in Czech, Apr. 17, 1947, 5:00 a.m. EST--L
(Text)

"RUDE PRAVO reports that Durcansky, who has just been sentenced to death, is running a propaganda campaign against the Republic by radio from abroad. In a shortwave transmission calling itself 'Broadcast of the Slovak Republic from America,' Durcansky made a speech. He reviled the Republic and President Benes and described the alleged fearful conditions in Slovakia where no one knew what would happen to him the next day, where there was no religious freedom, and from where people were being deported to the USSR.

He also announced that the so-called Slovak Action Committee in New York, whose chairman he is, has lodged a protest with the U. N. against the sentence of the Bratislava National Court."

(Editor's Note)

A clandestine station broadcasting in English and operating on 6750 kilocycles (44.45 meters) was heard at 5:05 p.m. EST on Apr. 16. The station identified itself as "Voice of the Slovak Republic" but no mention was made of America. The location of the transmitter has not yet been determined.

A petition from the Slovak Action Committee to the United Nations was read, which concluded as follows: "We claim that the benefit of Christian democracy be applied to the Slovak Nation. We claim that the principles of the Atlantic Charter of the United Nations be valid also for the Slovaks. We also claim fundamental freedoms for the Slovak people and Slovakia. Slovaks want to be rid of the Czecho-Communist aggressors and a Czecho-Communist Czechoslovakia.

"We claim the reestablishment of a democratic and Christian Slovak Republic. The resolve of the Slovak Nation to shake off the yoke of Communist Czechoslovakia is firmer today than ever before."

CPYRIGHT "Voice of the Slovak Republic" (Clandestine), in English on 44.45 meters, Apr. 16, 1947, 5:00 p.m. EST--L
(Excerpts)

(Intercepted in progress) "... Republic was not the result of external intervention. Its creation called for no foreign support nor was the approval or consent of Germany sought or deemed necessary. The charge cannot be made that to the detriment of the Slovak Republic, with the creation of the Slovak Republic, the Germans overran and occupied the Czech lands, for the two events bore no relation to each other.

"That the sum total of these circumstances conformed with the state of international law is borne witness to in that the Slovak Republic was within a short time recognized by 27 foreign Powers. That recognition came not only from neighboring States, not from States collaborating with Germany, as propaganda hostile to the Slovak cause has asserted and continues to assert, but also from States that, as the war progressed, remained neutral--Switzerland, The Vatican, Sweden, Spain, and others.

"The Slovak Republic was not recognized by the United States but the reason for this may be found in the propaganda directed against the Slovak Republic, which propaganda represented Slovakia as a puppet creation of Germany whose territory was occupied by German military forces. The truth today is that this base assertion has no basis in fact. On the contrary what the facts

CONFIDENTIAL

have proved is that the theory of the legal continuity of Czechoslovakia is without foundation. The creation of the Slovak Republic was not the result of any act of force or aggression and therefore the political principle of nonrecognition does not validly apply to it.

"The existence of the Slovak Republic was based in fact on the relative laws. It is unthinkable therefore that the acts of the representatives of the Slovak Republic should be judged by a court established by Czechoslovakia, since Czechoslovakia is neither legally nor morally justified in examining and judging the acts of the representatives of the Slovak Republic. Since the Czechoslovakia of today is not the Czechoslovakia of the years before the war, the organs of the present Czechoslovakia are legally without jurisdiction over acts which led to the creation of the Slovak Republic.

"Slovak representatives could not have committed any acts of treason against the Czechoslovak Government, if they did not recognize the right of Czechoslovak Government, if they did not recognize the right of Czechoslovakia as the State to which they belonged or to which they owed allegiance. On the contrary, they looked upon Czechoslovakia as a State into which the Slovak people had been propelled by force and diplomatic intrigue. As such, it became not only the right but the duty of responsible representatives of the Slovak people to shake off what must be considered an immoral and harmful state of political oppression and they did so at the first morally and legally justifiable opportunity.

"The representatives of the Slovak Republic cannot be charged with being war criminals because of alleged collaboration with the Power occupying a small part of its land, and to charge them with war crimes which in fact they have never committed in the same sense in which the representatives of such Nations as Norway, Belgium and Holland are charged—Many of whom collaborated with the enemy—means ignoring the true state of affairs in Slovakia during the war. The situation in the Slovak Republic was far different from that of the countries named above and must be viewed as such, not only from this point of view but also from the standpoint of the complicated legal, political, historical, and moral questions it gives rise to.

"The proceedings of the National Court in Bratislava against President Tiso and other representatives of the Slovak Republic are not designed for the examination of war crimes, as these are defined in Article 6 of the charter of the international military tribunal. In the Bratislava trial, not only the persons of President Tiso and other Slovak representatives were involved but the political concept; that is, the idea of a Slovak Independent State, and the determination of the Slovak Nation as such. (Unintelligible passage—Ed.)

"Had Russia become the protector of the Slovak State instead of Germany under the Presidency of Tiso, there would be no charge of treason today against the Chief of the Slovak Republic. Today it is estimated that three-fourths of the Slovak people are behind Tiso, for they regard him as a national martyr, and the Slovak ideal of self-government, and although aspirations of the Slovak Nation for independence are not quite so apparent today, yet they are just as strong in their opposition to the Czech regime in Prague and just as determined. Under Tiso's rule, Slovakia enjoyed national prosperity and it was favorably comparable to international prosperous economy.

Slovaks generally looked back upon the years 1938-39, when the established their own national Government, independent from the Czechoslovak Republic, as the only choice they had; a choice, it is true, that they naturally made in their own interests. And why not? At this time, Germany and Russia were still on friendly terms, and they both approved of the move that freed the Slovaks from the political yoke of the Czechs. There can be no doubt that Tiso had no other aims than that of establishing a free, independent Slovakia.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- 5 -

79656

CPYRGHT

(Here are given further unintelligible comment on Tiso's trial and the present situation in Slovakia.)

"We claim that the benefit of Christian democracy be applied to the Slovak Nation. We claim that the principles of the Atlantic Charter of the United Nations be valid also for the Slovaks. We also claim fundamental freedom for the Slovak people and Slovakia. Slovaks want to be rid of the Czechoslovak Communist aggressors and a Czechoslovak Communist Czechoslovakia. We claim the reestablishment of a democratic and Christian Slovak Republic. The resolve of the Slovak Nation to shake off the yoke of Communist Czechoslovakia is firmer today than ever before."

(Announcer): "You have heard a petition from the 'Slovak Action Committee' to the United Nations."

(Editor's Note: The announcer spoke English with a strong Slovak accent.)

Prague, Czechoslovak Home Service, in Czech, Apr. 13, 1947, 1:00 a.m. EST--L

CPYRGHT (Text)

"On Apr. 13, 1947, at 5:30 a.m. the sentence of death by hanging was carried out on Dr. Josef Tiso, who had been sentenced by the National Court in Bratislava.

"Dr Tiso had made a request for a reprieve which was, however, rejected and the sentence of the National Court was therefore carried out."

"Voice of the Slovak Republic" (Clandestine), in Slovak, on 44.5 meters, Apr. 13, 1947, 5:00 p.m. EST--L

CPYRGHT Editor's Note: Heavy jamming made reception poor)

(Excerpts)

"Recording of a speech by Ferdinand Durocansky, Chairman of the Slovak Action Committee on the occasion of the death sentence passed by the so-called National Court on Dr. Josef Tiso, the President of the Slovak Republic.

"The Slovak Action Committee raises its voice to call on all the Slovak people on the occasion of the murder of the Slovak President, Dr. Tiso. Slovak men and women, sadness fills the soul of the true Slovak. Boundless sorrow envelopes the whole of Slovakia. The whole Slovak Nation weeps and every Slovak man and woman weeps. We mourn, for a heart has ceased to beat which loved the Slovak Nation more than its own life.

"A criminal hand has dispatched to eternity the man who was the exponent of the Slovak Republic, the defender of the Slovak people's rights and freedom.

"The criminals who have subjugated Slovakia have killed him because they want to kill the Slovak Nation. The imperialists who are deliberately destroying Slovakia believed that they could reach their goal more easily if they destroyed him who gave national consciousness to the Slovak Nation. The slavedrivers who want to shame the Slovaks believed that they would more easily achieve this by killing the man who had the main share in liberating the Nation from the foreign yoke. They thought it necessary to kill the man who, in the eyes of Slovakia, represented the freedom of the Nation.

"Tiso's heart has ceased to beat. This is terrible news. But we must not abandon ourselves to lamentation. Nothing could more tarnish the memory of Dr. Tiso. For he worked throughout his life so that Slovakia should be better off. He went into politics to help his people regain an

CONFIDENTIAL

equal position among the civilized Nations of the world. Tiso dedicated his whole life to his Nation. He died so that it should live. With his blood, he sealed the Slovak Nation's right to a free life. He has thus shown before the whole world that Slovaks have not abandoned the Slovak Republic, and that they are ready to pay with their lives for its freedom.

"Slovak men and women, pray for Dr. Tiso! Keep his memory in your hearts as your most precious possession. Do not despair, May Dr. Tiso rest in peace; the Slovak Republic will be restored. We must all work so that we can again tear from alien clutches the land which Tiso loved so much. Let us cease moaning and wringing our hands. This would not be worthy of Tiso's greatness. Everyone that avows Tiso's message should work for his Nation as he did. We must fight for our rights as relentlessly as he did. With heads erect, let us proclaim our loyalty to the Nation which produced such a great son as Dr. Tiso. We call to you, Slovak men and women: Hold your heads high. The Slovak Republic will again occupy its place as an equal among the Nations of the world. Let all loyal Slovaks go to work in Tiso's spirit.

"Dr. Josef Tiso has died. May the Slovak earth lie lightly on him. He has died for the Slovak Republic. Long Live the Slovak Republic."

"We have received a telegram from the United States announcing that the Slovak Action Committee, exercising on the grounds of Article 37 of Part 2 of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic, the powers and prerogatives of the Government of the Slovak Republic, passed the following ordinance at its meeting on Apr. 15, 1947:

"Article I--Dr. Josef Tiso has won undying merit for the freedom of the Slovak Nations and for the establishment and maintenance of the Slovak Republic.

"Article II--A Dr. Josef Tiso Order is hereby instituted as the highest decoration in the Slovak State.

"More details about this ordinance will be given in one of our next broadcasts.

"Closing announcement: Dear listeners, this is the end of our transmission for today, this sad day, in Slovak history. We conclude with the slogan of our beloved President 'True to ourselves, forward in unity.' You can hear the 'Voice of the Slovak Republic' again tomorrow at 11 p.m. Slovak time, on 44.5 meters for Slovakia, and on two wavelengths in our overseas service--on the 19-meter band for the United States and on the 16-meter band for South America. Do not forget that the hour of Slovakia's liberation is approaching inexorably."

"Voice of the Slovak Republic," (Clandestine) in Slovak to Slovakia, Apr. 22, 1947, 4:00 p.m. EST--L

(The broadcast was subjected to the heavy jamming, and it was only occasionally intelligible--Ed.)

(Excerpts)

"The Slovak Nation will not be diverted from its road toward State independence and if there is anything calculated to strengthen the ideal of Slovak State independence it is the trial and murder of the symbol of the Slovak Republic. The attempts of the Czech assassins of the Slovak Nation led by Benes, the archcriminal of evil, and his traitorous assistants, to suppress the ideal of Slovak State independence after the German concentration camps and crematoriums, after the SS mass graves and death factories, and to discredit it... The war resulting from Slovakia's geographical position.

CONFIDENTIAL

"In no case did the Slovak Republic and even less Dr. Tiso depend on Germany as today Prague and Bratislava depend on Moscow, and not by far did Slovak statesmen collaborate with Germany to the same extent as today... collaborate with the Soviet Union. The Slovak Republic was freer as regards the Germans than the so-called Czechoslovakia as regards the Soviets. That was the work of Dr. Tiso and his fearless attitude toward German arrogance. The ideal of Slovak State independence did not come about with Hitler. For more than a hundred years it has formed an integral part of Slovak history.

"Dr. Tiso's greatness rests on the fact that in the years 1938 and 1939 when the fate of the Nation was at stake, he did not hesitate to place himself at its head. He acted as a man conscious of his responsibility who loved his Nation and his homeland. His greatness rests on the fact that he showed to be as good a Christian as he was a good Slovak, and also a perfect man. Therefore, he followed the interest of the Slovak Nation in such a way as not to allow his conduct to infringe in any way on the rights of any other Nation. He was never guilty of hatred or persecution of his opponents. He showed himself to be equally great in battle as in victory.

"Tiso is a great President of the Slovak Republic. He will remain great despite the mud thrown at him by those who are today the masters of life or death in Slovakia. Even when placed before the institute masquerading under the name of a court of law, Dr. Tiso did not for a moment....

"Voice of Slovak Republic," Clandestine, in Slovak to Slovaks, Apr. 23, 1947, 4:00 p.m. EST—L

(Excerpts)

CPYRGHT (Editor's Note:) Reception very poor; heavy and almost continuous jamming)

"Scarcely anyone of Slovak... feels glad at the humiliation of the Slovak Nation. But those most deeply grieved by the death of Dr. Tiso are the women of Slovakia. Few of the Slovak women will express their sorrow publicly except in prayer....

"Voice of Free Slovakia", Clandestine, in English to Europe, Apr. 23, 1947, 5:00 p.m. EST—L

(Excerpts)

CPYRGHT (Editor's Note: Bulletin was jammed at frequent intervals).

(Intercepted in progress) "...the Czechoslovak fracture of Czechoslovakia had special consequences, for example, with concentration camps and with the penalties attached to Slovak political activity.

"The Communist minority obtained totalitarian control during the presence of the Soviet Army and maintained it in spite of the anti-Communist issue of the general election. The Slovaks are being denied human rights and fundamental freedoms. The United Czechoslovak forces are oppressing anti-Communist Slovakia in a measure never before experienced in the history of the country...

"Help us to overthrow the regime of terrorism. The Slovaks do not want to live oppressed in a common State. The Slovaks do not want a Communist totalitarian regime. The Slovaks want to live in their country as well as other Nations. The Slovaks want to work out their destiny in their own Christian and democratic way. Help us to overthrow the Czechoslovak oppression. Czechoslovakia is the jumping-off ground for international Communism in Europe.

"The capital sentence passed on Dr. Tiso, President of the Slovak Republic, is a political revenge of Mr. Benes and of international Communism on the most prominent representative of the Slovak fight for independence and the most radical opponent of red totalitarianism. This sentence passed by the

CONFIDENTIAL

CPYRGHT

- 8 -

79656

so-called National Court in Bratislava is in full contradiction to the public opinion of the Slovak population. It is a denial of democratic principles and of the perennial principles of justice and right. The rope about Dr. Tiso's head is the symbol of the oppression of the Slovak Nation and all responsible men of this globe who allowed the suppression of democracy and justice in Slovakia are accomplices of the brutal Czech imperialism and of international Communism.

"The case of Dr. Tiso will be forever evidence of how unjustly the victorious Powers treated the Slovak Nation. The figure of Dr. Tiso remains in the heart of the whole Slovak Nation and there is no court on this earth which can remove from the Slovak mind the admiration and attachment to the President of the Slovak Republic."

"Voice of the Slovak Republic" (Glandestine), in Slovak to Europe, May 18, 1947, 11:00 a.m. EST—L

(Text)

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"Station announcement: This is the Voice of the Slovak Republic, broadcasting in the 22-meter band and in the 19 meters for North America. We are calling all correspondents of the Slovak Information Service and request them to inform as soon as possible what reception is like in the 22-meter band.

"Dear listeners: We shall now read you a proclamation issued by the representatives of the free will of the Slovak Nation on the occasion of the murder of President Dr. Josef Tiso:

"We hereby acquaint the whole world and all Slovaks with the fact that the first President, founder of the Slovak Republic, Dr. Josef Tiso, was hanged at 5:30 a.m. on Apr. 13, 1947, in the courtyard of the district court in Bratislava.

"The Czech-Communist and Slovak-traitorous clique of the forcibly installed Government in Bohemia and Slovakia whose only support is the dictatorial power of the Soviet Union, against the unanimous decision of the Slovak people, regardless of religious or political convictions, has committed the most shameful and inhuman act in sentencing to death by hanging Dr. Josef Tiso, the first President, founder of the Slovak Republic.

"This is a crime against the Catholic Church, against humanity, and against the Slovak Nation.

"All persons taking part or in any way implicated in this act are excommunicated from the Christian-Catholic Church, expelled from the society of mankind, and from Slovak national life. On Dr. Tiso's body we call, demand, and appeal to all Slovaks throughout the world to unite and work to remove the injustice committed on the Slovak Nation to alter the present position in favor of the Slovak Nation by restoring its sovereignty. The sufferings of the Slovak Nation, its pains and torments (must) penetrate the conscience of all mankind."

(Editor's Note: At this point the station was caught by the usual strong jamming and rendered unintelligible except for occasional words. The transmissions lasted about 20 minutes.)

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